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1. Political control of the East German Meteorological and Hydrological Service has recently been tightened. At the Second Congress of the SED, held in early fall, 1952, the following decisions were announced (translated):

"The decision of the Second Party Conference of the SED to begin building-up socialism in the DDR provides further basis for the struggle for a united, peaceful, and democratic Germany. This decision means that the SED will intensify and expand its fight for the unity of Germany. Our party organization, which has not previously been the leading force in the Meteorological and Hydrological Service of the East German government, must improve its party contribution considerably. To do this the following must be done:

1. Members and candidates must establish close ties with their co-workers and must pay careful attention to the suggestions and criticisms of all their colleagues. Every member and every candidate is ordered by the party to meet regularly for discussions with three co-workers, who are not members of any party and whose names will be supplied, and to inform the party leadership at least once a month on their line of thought. The members responsible for agitation and propaganda will carefully elaborate and discuss these arguments once a week for one-half hour before the day's work begins. It is the duty of the party leadership to supervise the execution of this order.
2. Members and candidates must be constantly on guard and must report to the party leadership any observations of antagonistic activity within the organization or on Meteorological and Hydrological Service premises. A determined fight is to be made against any conciliatory tendency towards enemies of the party and of the people.
3. Organizational standards must be raised to correspond to the level of the political tasks. Decrees must be carefully formulated, the responsibility and the deadline must be stipulated. The party leadership exercises strict control over the execution of its orders and will employ the medium of "education" in party matters in case of oversight or omission.

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4. Members and candidates are obligated to enlist candidates for our party among progressive scientists, technicians and active members of the FDJ.
5. Members of the Betriebs-Gewerkschaftsleitung must work toward accomplishing the accounting report of the Betriebs-Gewerkschaftsleitung collectively and must eliminate the ideological weaknesses from this report. The members are directed to report once a month to a leadership session on their trade-union activity.
6. Party education and community influence must be used in case of offenses.

"In order to execute the decrees of the second party conference and in support of the great responsibility which henceforth rests on all members and candidates and especially on all functionaries of our party, the following measures are announced for ensuring education in party matters and a progressive and aggressive development within the Betriebs-Parteiorganisation of the Meteorological and Hydrological Service:

1. In view of the need to activate our party work and to assume in fact the leading role in the Meteorological and Hydrological Service, the conscientious cooperation of every comrade and candidate in all party affairs is requested.
2. Every member and candidate must put aside his personal matters and carry out conscientiously the duties assigned to him by the party decree as well as those duties deriving from his party affiliation.
3. Because of many previous deficiencies which have become evident, every member and candidate is obliged to be a shining example to his colleagues in his personal and official behavior. Only by exemplary living on the part of members of the Betriebs-Parteiorganisation can their collective effort be successful. To guarantee the elementary presuppositions of good party cooperation of the Betriebs-Parteiorganisation, the following orders are effective immediately:
  - a. Participation at all party affairs is a binding duty of each member and candidate. In case of inability to attend, reasons must be stated in advance and in writing. Verbal excuses through intermediaries will not be considered valid.
  - b. Every member and candidate is required to notify the party leadership in writing of any absence on leave or any duty trip (the latter outside of the Berlin area). Duty trips must be discussed in person with the party leadership of the Betriebs-Parteiorganisation.
  - c. Every written excuse will be presented for approval to the membership assembly. If a written excuse is disapproved, the member or candidate in question must defend himself by self-criticism before the entire Betriebs-Parteiorganisation.
  - d. In the future, education in party matters will be employed in any offense against party discipline in conformity with paragraph 12 of the statute. The party leadership must ensure the strict observance of the statute, particularly paragraphs 6 and 7, and must explain immediately any violation to all members and candidates."

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